LEVEL ONE

Soundings

News and Information from
The Northwest Washington Synod

Volume 19, Number 8 September 2002

A Word From The Bishop, Wm Chris Boerger

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"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
Matthew 28:19 NRSV

One Year Ago

One year ago, we watched in horror as the World Trade Center collapsed in repeated views of amateur and professional videos. We have continued the mourning process as the last survivor was pulled from the rubble. The end of the "clean-up" process was replayed with the mournful sounds of the bagpipe as the last beam was taken from the pit.

The early response to September 11, 2001 was an increase in worship attendance. The public media and the church wondered if this event would herald a new day of religious enthusiasm in this country. Now the average attendance numbers have returned to "normal". Our leaders have evangelized our national religion of "shopping". We are "back to norma".

The hoped for jump in worshippers is in some way a description of the problem facing our church. Jesus commanded the disciples to "Go, make disciples". For some reason the church has decided that if we build the church, they will come. Our task of evangelism is not done when the service is planned and the advertisements are published.

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Continued from page 1--A Word from the Bishop

One Year Ago

The early church told the story of Jesus to a skeptical world. The Holy Spirit used those words to work faith and transformed the world. The current church has the same task. World events only show the weak substance of our false gods of security, power and wealth. The God of the cross comes into lives through the foolishness of one person speaking to another. Through one person, sharing a cup of water in the name of Jesus, the church's message is shared.

I have often noted that 80 percent of the people who come to church, come because a friend or relative invited them. The way to share the love of God is still person to person. I am not talking about pastors only. Each of us telling our neighbor why Jesus Christ is important to us, is life to us, is the way of evangelizing the world.

We live in a mission field. God is calling us to speak. World events will not make our job easier. We dare not count on the crises of the world to do the work of sharing the good news. We must be ready at all times to be prepared and eager to share the hope that is in us. God has given us a rich field in which to work. Now we need to hear the command of Jesus to each of us, "Go, make disciples."

" World events only show the weak substance of our false gods of security, power and wealth. "

Planting The Seeds For Growing Church

Laura Faley will lead a workshop sharing information about what you can do to encourage or lead your church into growth.

Planting the Seeds for Growing the Church workshop will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21, at St. Luke's Memorial Episcopal Church in Tacoma (3615 North Grove Street). Lunch will be provided. A free will offering will be accepted.

The program includes: Characteristics of Healthy Churches; Understanding the Unchurched; Greeter Ministry Training; Incorporating Newcomers; Starting a Small Group; and Group Discussion and Q&A.

Registration forms are due by Sept. 14. Send your name, address, phone number and email to: Rainier Regional Ministries, Attn. Hisako Beasley, 1529 51st Street NE, Tacoma, WA 98422; email hisakomb@aol.com. This workshop is sponsored by the Rainier Regional Ministries of the Diocese of Olympia.

Northwest Washington Synod Information

Still Time To Register

Bishop's Fall Convo With Dr. Juel

The Northwest Washington Bishop's Convocation Committee presents a retreat for all rostered personnel and spouses Oct. 20-22 at Harrison Hot Springs in British Columbia.

Keynote speaker and presenter is Dr. Don Juel from Princeton Theological Seminary. The topic is: *Finding One's Self at the Mercy of God: The Gospel of Mark for Preaching and Pastoral Care.* For more information about Dr. Juel visit www.ptsem.edu/meet/Faculty01/Juel.html.

Cost is $180 each for double occupancy; $285 for single occupancy. Registration includes two nights lodging and use of all resort amenities; a Sunday evening banquet, two deluxe continental breakfasts; and two coffee breaks.

For more information about Harrison Hot Springs visit their website at www.harrisonresort.com.

Registration deadline is Sept. 8.

Hosting The Synod Council

Is Your Congregation Interested?

Would your congregation like to host the Northwest Washington Synod Council in 2003?

The Synod Council meets every other month on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The 2003 meetings are: January 18, March 15, May 10, September 20 and November 15. (On July 19 the Council meets from 9 a.m. to noon.)

The Synod Council asks that our host share with the Council a little bit about the congregation and lead our opening devotions. The Synod Council also asks that you provide lunch, for which the Council will pay. The meeting and lunch space need to be wheel chair accessible. Including guests, there usually are between 30 and 40 who attend.

To schedule a meeting at your church, or if you would like more information, please contact Sharon Greenwood, Synod Council Vice President, at 206-283-5546 or at gary_greenwood@msn.com.

Young Adults in Global Mission

Kara Linder has been appointed by the ELCA to serve as a volunteer in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program. Kara is a member of Oak Harbor in Oak Harbor.

Kara will serve in Germany for one year beginning in August. She is among 16 ELCA young adults who has demonstrated the gifts, faith and commitment to represent the ELCA and to grow in leadership, service, global understanding and faith.

The ELCA Division for Global Mission underwrites some of the costs for the mission service year; however, Kara is responsible to raise $3,000 towards the support package.

Advent and Calling-Caring Ministries Workshops

At Sammamish Hills

Sammamish Hills in Sammamish Hills is hosting three different workshops that are open to the public. For more information regarding these workshops, contact the Church Office at 425-392-7799 or email at prjohn@shlc.org.

Preaching the Texts of Advent/ Preparing for Advent in the Home will be held on Nov. 16 and 17. Speakers are Pastor Susan Briehl, Mary Emily and Magdalena Wells. Pastor Briehl will speak on Saturday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the topic *Preaching the Texts of Advent.* She will lead participants through the Year B Revised Common Lectionary texts for Advent. A freewill offering will be received. On Sunday from noon until 5 p.m., (beginning with a light lunch) Susan, Mary Emily and Maggie will lead a cross generational workshop on preparing for Advent in the home. The workshop will feature activities for all ages. Registration is $15 per person or $25 per family.

An ***Introduction to Calling-Caring Ministries*** will be held from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6. The facilitator is Pastor John LaMunyon. (A light dinner will be served.)

The ***Calling-Caring Ministries Lab 1*** will be held on Jan. 10 through 12, and Jan. 31 through Feb. 2, 2003. Both weekends are needed for certificate of completion. Cost is $100, meals and materials are included. *A brochure is included in this newsletter for the Calling-Caring Ministries Workshop.*

Evening Classes

Trinity Lutheran College is offering several opportunities for learning this fall and winter. A full description of the courses can be found on Trinity's website at www.tlc.edu or call Admission at 425-392-0400 or 800-843-5659 to register.

Evening Classes

Trinity is offering evening classes this fall: *Introduction to Music Ministry* (Monday with Scott Hafso), *Confirmation* (Tuesday with Sue Houglum), *Latin I* (Tuesday and Thursday with Bruce Grigsby), *STARS* (Tuesday with Linda Gibb), and *Introduction to Information Technology* (date to be announced, with David Patterson).

Discovery Module

A variety of unique options will be available Dec. 2-13 as students enjoy this special two-week session. Head off to the mountains with Audrey Forbes to experience *Mountain Meditation* or *Retreat Ministry* with Sue Houglum. City *Encounter* with Mark Jackson explores some of the issues that affect the city of Seattle and its people. Glen Gersmehl, of Lutheran Peace Fellowship, will repeat *The Journey from Violence to Wholeness.*

Former professors Pat Lelvis and Dan Bloomquist will teach as well: Lelvis leads mission students on a *Language & Culture Acquisition* experience in Mexico and Bloomquist is the Lavik Lecturer, studying *Romans: God's Word for the World.*

Other on-campus courses include the *Gospel of Mark*, *The Parables of Jesus*, *ESL: American Experience*, *Choir* , *Visual* Arts Seminar, *St Paul: Roman Citizen and* Traveler and *Internet Research for Ministry.*

Stewardshops

Plan now to attend one of the two *Stewarshops* meetings this fall. You will learn new and effective tools for your congregation's stewardship ministry. Your leadership will also be energized for God's mission. *Stewardshops* features skill-based workshops focused specifically on funding God's Mission through your congregation.

These workshops include:

- ☑ **Build A Case:** Establishing Motivation for Giving
- ☑ **Be Passionate:** Developing Entrepreneurial Leaders
- ☑ **A Closer Look:** Analyzing Response Methods
- ☑ **Thanking Six Times:** Donor Appreciation
- ☑ **In Person:** Asking for Contributions
- ☑ **A Story To Tell:** Interpreting God's Mission to Givers
- ☑ **Growing Your Mission Endowment:** Wills and Estate Planning

Mark your calendars now for one of the two dates that have been set aside:

- 9 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 14 at Kent in Kent

or

- 1:30 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15 at Oak Harbor in Oak Harbor

The cost is $25 per congregation. There will be an additional $5 charge per person to cover lunch and refreshments. More complete information will be mailed to each congregation. For details, call the Region 1 office at 206-624-0093 ext. 104 for Rev. Phil Reitz or ext. 103 for Janet Nelson. **Registration deadline is Sept. 4.**

One Day–Two Opportunities!

Trinity in Lynnwood is offering congregations two learning opportunities on Saturday, Nov. 9.

The first opportunity is the second annual *Celebrating Community Connections* sponsored by Lutheran Community Services Northwest from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. This ecumenical event is to celebrate the multicultural ministries of our congregations and learn about multicultural resources.

Hear speakers such as Jerry Shigaki, Ethnic Missioner from the Diocese of Olympia Episcopal Church; Stacy Kitahata, Congregational Ministries Coordinator for Multiculturalism and Evangelism ELCA Region 1; and Luz Maria Cabrera from Tierra Nueva Ministry, a partnership between Presbyterian Church USA and the ELCA.

Continue your outreach planning with the second learning opportunity called Community Asset Mapping from 1 until 3 p.m. Learn tools for addressing the needs and discovering the assets of your community. Find out how your church can be a community asset. This opportunity is facilitated by lay and clergy leaders.

Child care will be available upon request. Funding for this event is made possible through a Thrivent Financial for Lutherans grant to the Northwest Washington Synod - ELCA.

For more information or to register, call 206-694-5700 or email nps@lcsnw.org.

Attend one or attend both opportunities!

re:boot

re:boot is a one-day ministry plunge into postmodern culture and missions facilitated by postmodern leaders and practitioners.

re:boot will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct.5, at Holy Trinity on Mercer Island. Cost is $10 (for lunch).

You will learn to face the challenges of and discover opportunities for being church in the new cultural landscape, find resources helpful for "re:booting" your operating system and "de:fragging" your hard drive for missional integrity in the post-Christian landscape.

If you are curious about "postmodernity" and what it might mean for your mission and ministry; worried that our worship and traditions don't mesh with a hyper-text world; and wonder what your congregation can do to reach out to them; or want to be re-excited about what God is doing in the world and your part in it...then it's time to *re:boot!*

Who should attend?

- Pastors and priests who recognize the need to formulate a faithful response to a changing world.
- Lay Christians who know that the baptismal covenant is the "prime directive" for frontline ministry in today's world.
- Synodical and diocesan leaders interested in new missional strategies and models for church planting
- Seminarians and postulants wanting to expand their understanding of mission.

This event is sponsored by the Northwest Washington Synod , the

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All-Lutheran Candlelighting For Mental Illness

On one Sunday in October, the Lutheran Network on Mental Illness/Brain Disorders (LNMI/BD) is asking all Lutheran congregations to light a candle and to say a prayer for persons with mental illness and for their families.

The mission of the LNMI/BD is to assist faith communities to work effectively with persons with mental illness and their families, to educate about the mental illnesses and to combat stigma. It is a joint program of the ELCA and LC-MS.

If you would like to become a congregational contact, call Pastor Lisa Cleaver at 1-800-638-3522, ext. 2692.

Pioneers Westward

Pioneers Westward, a history of the former Lutheran Free Church on the West Coast, has recently been released by its author, retired synod pastor Bob Moylan. Originally prepared for presentation at the Northwest Lutheran Historical Society, the 150-page book has been revised for publication.

The book recounts the 66 year history of the LFC (1897-1963) as it took shape, particularly in Washington and Oregon, prior to its becoming a part of the American Lutheran Church. A roster of the 146 pastors and other workers is also included.

Copies are available for $20, including postage. Contact: Dr. Robert Moylan, 210 South Waugh Rd, Mount Vernon, WA 98274-9482, or moylan@gte.net

State Advocate's Corner

by Rev. Paul B. Benz, Director; Lutheran Public Policy Office

Greetings to you. With summer ending and fall beginning we in the Church turn our focus to what is a more "full-time" schedule with Sunday School and other activities resuming. My hope is that advocacy will be a part of your resumption of the "full time" Fall schedule.

In this month's column I'd like to focus on a national conference on Food Security and then two local issues related to Seattle and King County.

Community Food Security. From Oct. 4-7 at the Seattle Center more than 500 people from throughout the country will gather to learn how to be more effective in supporting the concept of *Community Food Security*. The focus at this event is on the local and regional food producers. The theme for this year's conference is *Eating Locally, Thinking Globally*. The Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC) is the sponsor and convener of this conference. CFSC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building sustainable local and regional food systems throughout North America. The coalition represents more than 250 food and hunger related organizations. Lutheran Public Policy is one of 60 local organizations that has joined together in planning and hosting this conference.

The first day's focus is on *Farm to Cafeteria*--how to get locally grown foods into schools and colleges. On the second day there will be a series of tours of local farms in Vashon Island, and in King and Skagit Counties. That evening Denny Park Lutheran will host *Earth Ministry's*, an annual celebration of St. Francis of Assisi. Program and registration information is available on-line at www.foodsecurity.org or call 310-822-5410.

Seattle Housing Levy. Lutheran Public Policy encourages all Seattle voters to support this important ballot measure that will continue to fund needed affordable housing.

The levy will raise $86 million over 7 years and will create over 2,000 units, particularly for "the least of these" in our midst ($16,000/yr).

A resource packet has been sent to all Seattle congregations. Please get this out to your members and lift up Sunday, Sept. 8, as Housing Levy/Homecoming Sunday.

King County Human Service Cuts. People of faith in King County are urged to call/email their County Council member and/or write a letter to the editor regarding the proposed human service cuts in the budget. Tell your council members that working families, at risk youth, victims of domestic violence, the mentally ill, the homeless and the elderly should not bear the brunt of balancing the $50 million deficit. To find out who your county council member is go to www.metrokc.gov/mkcc or call 1-800-325-6165.

I appreciate your invitations to come to your congregation to 'teach and preach' about the advocacy ministry of the ELCA. You can contact me at 206-694-5772 or email at pbenz@lcsnw.org.

Good News

by Ben, Bretheim, in behalf of the Synod's Task Force for Companion Synod and Companion Churches

The big news is that the number of Economical Church Buildings in our companion synod, the North Central Ethiopia Synod, keeps increasing. The number of buildings that are currently funded is now pushing 20, with three or four more giving sources on the way.

Our Synod has sent $121,134 to the North Central Ethiopia Synod. Gradually, the land is being secured and the building or buying is beginning to take place. A special gift is on its way from a congregation in Highland Ranch, Colorado, which will help some of the congregations that still do not have Church Buildings.

Your Companion Synod Task Force and your Synod Global Mission Committee continue to be amazed at the congregations and individuals participating in this project. In his letters, President Alebachew Teshome always sends a sincere *thank you* to the congregations, clusters and individuals who have given to help them have "Economical Church Buildings".

Learn About Becoming a Companion Church

A number of Synod congregations want to become Companion Churches with congregations in the North Central Ethiopia Synod. If you are interested in learning more, come join the Companion Churches in our Synod at a get-together from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15, at Grace in Bellevue. The Partner Churches in our Synod that have built relations with Lutheran Churches in Russia will also be a part of this event.

Recent Visitors To Ethiopia

Two visiting teams have recently returned from Africa. Pastor Marty Dasler and Jim Robrscheib went from Bethany on Bainbridge Island. They not only visited Ethiopia but they also spent some time in other parts of Africa. The other visiting team is Michelle Brekhus, Pastor Donald Brekhus and Brenda Mendez who are from Our Savior's in Stanwood. They brought back lots of pictures and a lot of enthusiasm for our Companion Synod in Ethiopia. Michelle will share in a part of the time on Sept. 15.

Their excitement has inspired some groundwork by your Synod Global Mission Committee for a larger group to go to our Companion Synod in Ethiopia the latter part of June in 2003. Much will be visible on the Economical Church Buildings by then. Many of the congregations will be praising God and worshipping in those buildings.

Prayers Are Needed

One of the biggest requests from our Companion Synod in Ethiopia is for our prayer support. They ask this because they have only six ordained pastors and eight trained evangelists as leaders in their congregations. They ask us to join them in praying "the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into the harvest". Many of their congregations have lay elders who are the leaders in their congregations. The congregations continue to reach others with good evangelism. Thus, the need for more trained leaders.

Studies on Sexuality

All congregations will receive a copy of the new study guide for the ELCA *Studies on Sexuality: Part One* in the September/October Action packet. Additional copies can be ordered through Augsburg Fortress at 1-800-328-4648, ISBN# 6-0001-6406-8 ($1.50 each plus postage and handling). These materials and a response form can also be downloaded for free from the ELCA's website at www.elca.org/faithfuljourney.

Ruined Lives

When drugs took hold of their children's lives, two Whidbey Island mothers lost more that sleep and peace of mind. They lost their children.

Ruined Lives, a docu-drama by a local producer, Douglas Dirkson, is a collage of sobering images of teen drug culture. The film documents both fictional and true-to-life stories about the dangers of methamphetamine use and effectively delivers the clear message that the real consequences of drug abuse are disastrous. It is designed for both drug awareness and drug prevention for an audience of parents, teen members of church congregations and adults working with youth. It is important that the showing of the film be moderated by a pastor or youth workers. It is not appropriate for young children.

The length of the video is 50 minutes. To reserve, contact the Region 1 Resource Center at 206-624-0093, ext. 100. Ask for video V-1252.

On TV

- *Caught in the Crossfire–Arab-Americans in Wartime* is a PBS special which will air nationally on Wednesday, Sept. 4. (Our local PBS station, KCTS-TV, will air the program at 10 p.m.) One of the three Arab-American's featured in this documentary is Khader El-Yateem, pastor of Salem Arabic Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, New York. For more information go to www.elca.org/co/crossfire or www.pbs.org/caughtinthecrossfire.
- *And Thou Shalt Honor...* is another PBS special which will air nationally at 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 9. (At the time of printing this newsletter, KCTS-TV could not confirm the local time or listing for this program.) One of the featured participants is an ELCA pastor, the Rev. Lois D. Knutson, visitation pastor of Our Savior's in Montevideo, Minn. For more information go to www.thoushalthonor.org.
- Not a television special, but a one hour live Webcast with Bishop Hanson will take place on Sunday, Oct. 6, beginning at 4 p.m. eastern time. The theme of this webcast is *Faithful Yet Changing: Planning for Mission.* Bishop Hanson will address topics which have been submitted in advance through the ELCA planning website, www.elca.org/planning. Visit that website to learn more about the webcast and the ELCA planning process.

A Safe Haven–For Our Children

by Pauline Chalfant, Cross of Christ in Bellevue

Children are dear to God's heart. God has used them throughout the ages to promote healing, achieve leadership and spread the Gospel. Moses, Joseph, Naaman's servant girl, the young boy Samuel, the teenager Mary and the little girl to whom Jesus brought new life were all minors when God began great works in them. We, too, must recognize and affirm the priceless value of each child by creating a safe environment for their growth and nurture in the church. It's been said that our children are the church of tomorrow. We can't forget that they're also the church of today.

The focus of the May 9 Northwest Washington Synod Bishop's Convocation was the prevention of child sexual abuse within the church. Participants watched a skit about the topic, heard from experts in various related fields and were invited to ask questions. The purpose of Safe Haven is to reduce the risk of abuse in congregations.

A new Synod Task Force has been formed to develop a packet of materials to assist congregations as they develop "Safe Child" policies and resources. The packets will contain edited portions of the videotaped Convocation presentations, focusing on awareness of the problem, identifying victims and abusers, screening of personnel, site modifications, legal responsibilities, reporting abuse and assisting victims and families in healing.

Also in the packets will be formats for discussing this serious topic with congregational members, as well as materials appropriate for an adult education series. Practical suggestions for prevention will empower church staffs and councils to take positive steps toward making their congregations safe havens for children and youth.

Members of the task force and email addresses are: Cathie Carlisle, scribe, at cmcarli@yahoo.com; Pauline Chalfant at paulinec@cofclc.org; Eldon Olson, convener, at EldonOlson@aol.com; Al Roehl at bigal8@bigplanet.com; Sue Wanwig at htlcmi@qwest.com; and Carol Warren at carolmwarren@attbi.com.

Target date for distributing the packets to congregations is early fall.

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re:boot

Diocese of Olympia and the Church of the Apostles (Mission Start). If you have questions, please contact Rev. Jan Nesse, Assistant to the Bishop, at jannesse@qwest.net or 206-783-9292; or Rev. Karen Ward, Church of the Apostles, at seattlerev@yahoo.com. Attendance is limited. Please send your check ($10 for each registrant) payable to the "Diocese of Olympia," noted bottom left "re:boot" workshop. Mail to: Carl Knirk, Diocese of Olympia, 1551 Tenth Ave. East, P.O. Box 12126, Seattle, Wa 98102. A freewill offering will be taken.

To learn more about postmodernism, please visit www.emergingchurch.org.

Artists at the Organ

Trinity in Lynnwood is pleased to present Martin Jean in recital at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29.

Martin Jean is professor of Organ at the Yale School of Music and Institute of Sacred Music. He is recognized widely as a brilliant, warmly communicative artist. He was awarded the First prize in the International Grand Prix de Chartres and has won first prize in the biennial American Guild of Organists' National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance.

Dr. Jean will conduct a master class for organ students on Saturday, Sept. 28 at 10 a.m. Anyone interested in participating should contact Norma Aamodt-Nelson, Minister of Music, at 425-778-2159 or check the website at www.trinitylutheranchurch.com.

Suggested donation is $10.

Bearing Witness

The photography exhibit *Bearing Witness: A Christian's View of Ground Zero* will be shown at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Seattle from Sept. 9 through the end of the month.

The exhibit was created by Kristine Leander, a member of Our Redeemer's in Seattle. The exhibit has previously been on display at Our Redeemer's and University Baptist Church.

This moving photo-essay combines photos of New York City's Ground Zero with quotes from scripture, literature and the media. St. Mark's is delighted to borrow the exhibit for their commemoration of the one-year anniversary of the terrorist attack.

Mentoring The Faith:

Partners for Nurture 2003

Mim Campbell, Associate Director of Christian Education, Children and Family Ministry for the ELCA, is keynote speaker for the January 25, 2003 Partners for Nurture event. Partners For Nurture is a Christian lay-educators training event held on the campus of Trinity Lutheran College in Issaquah. Rev. Lowell Stime, Interim Academic Dean of Trinity, will present his popular *Walk Through the Old Testament* workshop. Other workshops cover basic teaching skills, personal growth and nurture, and outreach and mission.

For more information please visit www.tlc.edu/general or contact Prof. Sue Houglum at 425-961-5532 or houglum@tlc.edu. Registration packets will be mailed to churches in early fall.

Grants Received

By Three Synod Ministries

Prince of Peace in Everett has been awarded a grant of $1,000 for support of their "ALPHA" ministry. The grant is from the Advisory Board of the Pacific Northwest Region of Thrivent Financial Services for Lutherans (formerly AAL/LB). This year's grants were designed to support lay ministry training and outreach. Prince of Peace intends to use the ALPHA ministry as a means of introducing people to the faith and to deepen the faith of those who are already believers.

St John United in Seattle and the Lutheran Public Policy Office of Washington have been jointly awarded a grant of $2,000 to support a program of "Empowering Congregational Advocates". This project will focus on the development of four to six teams from local congregations to advocate for social ministry programs designed to help the poor.

These grants were made possible by the Advisory Board of the Pacific Northwest Regional Office of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. This year's grants focused on lay ministry training and outreach.

Share Your News

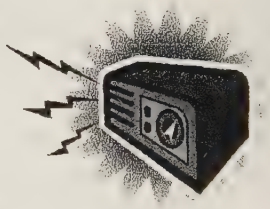
Deadlines For Synod Publications

October Issue--Tuesday, Sept. 3
November Issue--Monday, Sept. 30
December Issue--Monday, Nov. 4

Please send information to: Margit Peiffle, 21721 88th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA 98223; email mpeiffle@msn.com; telephone 360-403-9870; or fax 360-435-5955.

International Scholarships

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) offers a few scholarships to member churches in the US for international study. Application deadline is October 1, 2002. The application is several pages long and the applicants must be endorsed by their synodical bishop. Notification for the 2003 programs is made in early 2003, with disbursement of funds after July 2003. For more information contact Rev. Dr. Franklin Ishida, Division for Global Mission, at 1-800-638-3522 or email at fishida@elca.org.



Listen to *Lutheran Vespers* with Rev. Walt Wangerin every Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on KIRO Newsradio 710 AM.

Have you thought of supporting this wonderful ministry that reaches between 20,000 and 40,000 people each and every Sunday?

Please consider *Lutheran Vespers.* It is only through local support of individuals and congregations that we are able to keep the program on the air. It costs $1,000 for the 30-minute program. If you would like to help, or if you need more information, please contact Ernie Fosse at 360-652-2909 or email at ErnieFo@microsoft.com.

Pianist Wanted

The family of Camano Lutheran Church is in need of an accomplished pianist for second service Sundays at 11 a.m. The successful musician will receive $55 per service. Position is open immediately. Also needed, an accompanist for Voice Choir starting mid/September. Please call the church office at 360-629-4592.

Office Space Available

Lutheran Campus Ministry/Covenant House at the University of Washington has three offices available for local non-profits. Are you looking for office space or know someone who is? This is a great space for an administrative office. If interested, please contact Rev. Scott Postlewait, 4525 19th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98105; telephone at 206-524-7900; or email at chscott@drizzle.com.

Campus Ministry Referrals!

Have you sent names of your high school graduates to Lutheran Campus Ministry? It's easy to do.
1. Tell your graduates about Lutheran Campus Ministry and
2. Tell Lutheran Campus Ministry about your graduates.

Send referrals of ALL your college-bound (or already in college) students, to: Rev. Scott Postlewait; Lutheran Campus Ministry; 4525 19th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98105; phone 206 524-7900; fax 206 524-7907; email chscott@drizzle.com.

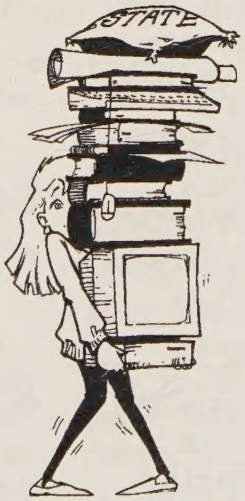
Holden Village Positions Available Now (September 2002)

Village Medic/Nurse: Provides ambulatory and emergency care for staff and guests. Includes training of First Response Team.

Carpenter: Leads on construction and maintenance projects coordinating team of volunteers.

Both positions are minimum one-year commitments with monthly stipend available and modest benefit package. For more detailed information and application, visit our website at www.holdenvillage.org/openjobs.html. Or write: Staff Coordinator, Holden Village, HC00 Stop 2, Chelan, WA 98816.

Lutheran College Fairs



The Lutheran College Fair that will be held in our area is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 29, at the Seattle Marriott Sea-Tac Airport, 3201 South 176th Street, Highway 99 (International Boulevard) and 176th Street.

The fair begins at 3:45 p.m. with registration; 4-4:45 p.m. College and Career Planning; 4:45-5:30 p.m. Financial Aid; 5:30-7:30 p.m. Lutheran College Fair—Reception and hors d'oeuvres. For more information about college fairs go to www.lutherancolleges.org.

News and Notes

- **Rev. Eldon Olson** will be the **Interim Director of Consultation to Clergy**, assuming regular office hours after August 1. He will be available by phone at that office, 206-623-8193. His duties are to focus on responding to crisis needs that may emerge, manage the office, and intake and make referrals for persons who need pastoral consultation, counseling, spiritual direction, or marriage and family therapy. His availability outside the Seattle office will be irregular, since he is contracted for quarter-time only.
- **Rev. Richard Wendt** was installed at St. Peter by the Sea in Edmonds on August 18. He has accepted a call to serve the Edmonds-Lynnwood Parish as Parish Mission Director and to serve St. Peter's by the Sea in Edmonds as their pastor. The Edmonds-Lynnwood Parish is: Trinity, Lynnwood; St. Matthew, Edmonds; Christ, Edmonds; and St. Peter by the Sea, Edmonds.
- **Dan Shaw** was ordained on July 20 at Emmanuel in Tacoma and was installed on August 11 at Zion in Kent.
- Lutheran Community Services needs **foster families**. Contact Phyllis Pugnetti at 206-694-5713.
- In July the **ELCA** reported that income for the 10,766 congregations in 2001 reached nearly $2.5 billion. In a separate announcement the ELCA reported a total of 5,099,877 baptized members at the end of 2001. That figure represented a decrease of one half of one percent or a reduction of 26,042 baptized members. The loss was primarily due to "roll cleaning" in congregations and the disbanding last year of 37 congregations. (For the full release go to http://listserv.elca.org/archives/elcanews.html, click on July 2002 and press release number 11 or 12.)
- **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans** has a new website: www.thrivent.com. The site was launched on July 1. Thrivent is the new organization that was formed from the merger of Aid Association for Lutherans and Lutheran Brotherhood on January 1, 2002.
- **The Ninth Annual LATCH Auction** will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19, at the Atrium at the Seattle Design Center, 5701 Sixth Avenue South, Seattle. Cost is $50 per person before Oct. 1, and $60 after Oct. 1. The cost includes dinner and wine. The money raised is to benefit the affordable housing program of Lutheran Alliance To Create Housing (LATCH).
- **Rev. Julie Blum** was installed at Maple Leaf in Seattle on August 4.
- **Cheryl Storey, Associate in Ministry,** was installed as the Director of Music at Mercer Island Presbyterian Church on June 9.
- **Florence Ekstrand** is 84 years old, a member of Queen Anne in Seattle, and a published author. Her new book, "How to Get From 80 to 90 Without Even Trying" gives readers a humorous look at aging.

Within Our Family

Within Our Family *depends upon you–not only for prayers, but also your prayer requests. Please contact the Synod office with any additions to this column.*

To Keep in Our Prayers....

† The family of the **Rev. Kathy Hawkes.** Her father passed away on July 25 after suffering a massive stroke.

† The family of the **Rev. Arnold Nelson**. Pastor Nelson passed away on July 23. A memorial service took place on Aug. 7 at Phinney Ridge in Seattle. (Please see article below.)

† **The Rev. Jim Schoeld (ret.) and his wife Rachel** who were in a serious one-car accident last summer. Continued prayers for their recovery.

† **The Rev. Doug Langholz** (Magnolia, Seattle) who continues to suffer the debilitating effects of ALS and is on disability. A celebration of his ministry was held at Magnolia on April 14. He and his wife, Mary, will continue to worship at Magnolia. You can contact Pastor Doug and Mary Langholz at: 2802 - 29th Ave. W, Seattle, WA 98199-2710; telephone 206-285-6214. The Rev. Mark Reiff will continue to serve the congregation of Magnolia.

† **The Rev. Robert Moylan (ret.)** as he deals with progressive muscular dystrophy.

† **The Rev. Luther Gabrielsen** (ret.) during his cancer treatments.

† **The Rev. Emerson Vedell,** visitation pastor for St John United in Seattle, who recently had surgery to remove a non-cancerous tumor in the frontal lobe of his brain.

Reverend. Arnold W. Nelson

Arnold Waldemar Nelson was born on Feb. 9, 1909 in Virgina, Minn. He was the third of five children, was baptized and confirmed at the Norwegian Lutheran Church, attended Chicago Lutheran Bible School, graduated from St. Olaf College and received his theology degree from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn.

Rev. Nelson was ordained in 1934 and this past June 10 celebrated the 68th anniversary of his ordination. His first call in the church was to a two point parish in Roy and Winifred, Mont. He also served in parishes in Dillon, Mont.; in Houston and Northfield, Minn.; in Silverton, Ore., where he also served on the Board of Trustees for Pacific Lutheran College; in Milwaukee, Wis.; in Virgina, Minn.; and in Seattle. His most exotic assignments were serving two years with the Lutheran World Federation in postwar Germany and eight years at the American Lutheran Church in Oslo, Norway. He also served in interim positions at Long Beach, Calif., and in Kodiak, Ala.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Jennevieve; and his beloved wife of 55 years, Goldie. He is survived by his three children and many other family members.

Arnie's kind and gracious spirit touched everyone with whom he came into contact. May his memory be blessed among us.

Bike News

A Journey Fueled by Faith

Walt Wangerin, the featured speaker for *Lutheran Vespers*, began his traveling ministry, **OutSpoken**, through the Midwest on Aug. 17. Wangerin will ride his bicycle through Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa. There will be 23 mini-rallies along the way. The purpose is to generate listener support for *Lutheran Vespers*. Wangerin's bike tour ends in October. For more information please visit www.elca.org/lv/OutSpoken. You can listen to Lutheran Vespers on KIRO 710 AM every Sunday morning at 7:30. For information how you can support our local broadcasting of this ministry, contact Ernie Fosse at 425-706-0136 or email at erniefo@microsoft.com.

America On A Wheel

In late April Pastor Lars Clausen from Alaska left Whidbey Island on a cross-country journey riding a unicycle. On Aug. 10 he ended his journey at the Statue of Liberty. Clausen rode the 5,000 miles to raise money for an endowment fund for the Inupiat Eskimos on the Seward Peninsula. He has raised $250,000 and has helped the Inupiat receive national publicity about their living conditions. To get more information go to Pastor Clausen's website at www.onewheel.org.

Soundings

News and information for pastors, associates in ministry, lay leaders and ecumenical friends of the

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(Permission to copy information in Soundings for use in congregations is granted.)

The deadline for the October 2002 issue of Soundings and The Spirit is Tuesday, Sept. 3. Send information to: Margit Peiffle, 21721 88th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA 98223; fax: 360-435-5955; email: mpeiffle@msn.com; or telephone 360-403-9870.